

An Address to the People of Mississippi By Lieutenant Governor Bilbo's Campaign Committee.

TO THE PEOPLE OF MISSISSIPPI:

The campaign is now drawing near the close, and in behalf of Lieutenant Governor Bilbo, we believe it proper to issue this statement to you, stating the grounds upon which he solicits the support of the people of this State for the high office he seeks, the efforts he has made to carry his cause directly to each and every voter of the State and the progress made in the campaign. Theodore G. Bilbo solicits the support of the people of Mississippi, first: "On his eight years' faithful service to the people of Mississippi."

Second: "On his equipment, knowledge and experience of public affairs."

Third: "On his views and concepts of the functions and purposes of government."

Fourth: "On the principles and policies of government that he stands for."

In each and every public utterance of Mr. Bilbo in his campaign for Governor, he has pointed to the record made by him as a public official; four years as State Senator, four years as Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi; his services in the first named office having been so proficient that in recognition thereof the people elected him Lieutenant of Mississippi to preside over the Senate, by an overwhelming majority in 1911, and in the last named office he served with such exceptional ability that he was declared by the unanimous vote of the Senate on more than one occasion, the best Lieutenant Governor Mississippi has ever had. And in every speech he has challenged any one to show where in either official capacity he has ever made a speech, or cast a vote, or did an official act save and except in the interest of the people of Mississippi.

HIS EQUIPMENT, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The life of Theodore G. Bilbo has been such as to put him in thorough sympathy and touch with the toiling masses of the State. Reared on a piney woods farm in Pearl River county, he has experienced the struggles, trials and triumphs of the ambitious boy who begins his life with a determination to succeed in spite of difficulties. He received his early education in the public schools. Through his own efforts, he obtained his higher education in the Peabody Normal College; the University of Nashville, and in the Law Department of Vanderbilt University. For a number of years the Lieutenant Governor was a teacher in the public schools of this State, and is in thorough sympathy with the education of every little boy and every little girl in the State. His knowledge of the needs of the public schools makes him a man of efficiency in this most useful branch of governmental service.

At all times he has been a friend to the public schools, and to the Normal School now at Hattiesburg, having been instrumental in its establishment and always lending his best efforts to its advancement. Mr. Bilbo believes that the Normal School is a great economy, and that every dollar spent in the public schools of the State will produce its value many times in knowledge, efficiency and equipment for the boys and girls of the State. From the

study of his platform it will be seen that Mr. Bilbo has been a close student of public affairs, and the soundness of his concepts we leave to your good judgment.

Mr. Bilbo's character as a man, his place in his community as a friend and neighbor, father and husband, is all testified to by the overwhelming vote he has received every time he has offered for election in his own home county, for no man can have stronger testimonials than the endorsement of his friends and neighbors who must and do know him best.

In religion, Mr. Bilbo is affiliated with the Baptist church, and the first office ever held by him was Secretary of a Baptist Association.

HIS VIEWS AND CONCEPTS OF THE FUNCTIONS AND PURPOSES OF GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Bilbo has always recognized two distinct and antagonistic ideas of government existing at all times and wherever governments are found. The two ideas of government are known in this country as the Jeffersonian, or Democratic ideal of government, and the Hamiltonian, or aristocratic ideal of government. Theodore G. Bilbo is the exponent and spokesman of the Jeffersonian ideal of Democracy. His every sympathy is with the toiling masses of the State.

Reared among the people, a country boy and public school teacher, a public servant, he has come into contact with the people of this State. He knows their ability; knows their needs; knows their sympathies, and on each and every occasion where opportunity has presented itself, he has advocated the placing of every governmental function directly in the hands of all the people and on all occasions has appealed to them for the vindication of his own rights and ideas. He has made more speeches to Mississippi audiences than any other Mississippian, having made in the campaign of 1910-11 more than six-hundred speeches. He brings his cause directly to the individual voter of the State and has the utmost confidence in their good judgment and their love of justice.

In promulgating his platform, he has requested that the people of this State, if they select him as their Governor, to select members of the Legislature in sympathy with the views he has on public matters. It is not his request that people be selected who support him individually or personally, but those who believe in the principles and policies he advocates. He does this because his concept of a platform is a solemn covenant between himself and the people of this State, and if elected Governor, he will do his utmost to carry out the policies advocated by him and enunciated in his platform for the good of the people of the State. He takes it that the people of the State in selecting their Governor will study the platforms of the various candidates, and that each citizen will use his patriotic judgment as to what will be to the best interest of the people of the entire State. He feels that if his views are adopted that he will be powerless to carry them out unless the Legislature elected by the people is in sympathy with his views. However others may feel, Mr. Bilbo considers his platform a concrete statement of certain business and governmental policies that he desires to have inaugurated.

THE PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES OF GOVERNMENT HE STANDS FOR.

Mr. Bilbo's platform is well known to the people of this State. It has been published from time to time in many of the papers of the State. And in the hundreds of speeches that he has made in every part of the State he has discussed its different features. He is in favor of such measures as will reduce crime and give to the erring boy another chance. For an instance, he favors the establishment of a reformatory for the incorrigible youths found throughout the State. He is in favor of the elimination of politics in our great educational institutions. He favors such laws as will more equitably distribute the burden of government, requiring all property to bear its due proportion of taxes and to distribute the benefits to each and every one fairly and equally.

He is in favor of laws to encourage stock raising in Mississippi by exempting from taxation a number of years the cattle "GROWN IN MISSISSIPPI," and is in favor of laws exempting from taxation all farm products "Grown in Mississippi" in whatever hands found, because, after all, the producer would be compelled to pay the tax on farm products if such tax should be imposed.

THE CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Bilbo has made a most remarkable campaign. For the past five months he has made three speeches nearly every day and speaks from two to three hours each time. His very physical endurance has been remarkable. His audiences have been larger than the audiences that greeted him in 1911, and his speeches have been listened to with the utmost attention and he has been received with cordiality and enthusiasm wherever he has gone. He takes the people into his confidence and states frankly and distinctly the issues for them to decide.

THE PROSPECTS.

And it gives us pleasure to say to you in all sincerity that we believe from information received by us from every portion of the State that the Lieutenant Governor will hold his own in every county in the State, and in most counties will materially increase his vote over the vote he received when a candidate for Lieutenant Governor in 1911.

And we believe after careful analysis of the situation in all the counties that Mr. Bilbo will receive in the neighborhood of 90,000 out of a probable vote of 140,000 on August 3rd.

APPRECIATION.

We wish to express to the people of this State our appreciation of their co-operation and substantial aid in this cause, and will ask you to continue the fight with utmost vigor until the end and the victory is won, which we sincerely believe will be greater than any political victory of any candidate who has ever had opposition in this State.

BILBO CENTRAL CAMPAIGN COM.

By William C. Ward, President.
Clayton D. Potter, Sec. & Treas.

Lieutenant Governor Bilbo's nomination on August third as practically assured; the only question to be determined is the majority.